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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/736,707	12/15/2000	James F. Howell	001248.02	7802

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James E. Bradley
Bracewell & Patterson, L.L.P.
P.O.Box 61389
Houston,, TX 77208-1389

EXAMINER

BASHORE, ALAIN L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3624

DATE MAILED: 02/25/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/736,707

Applicant(s)

HOWELL ET AL.

Examiner

Alain L. Bashore

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12-23-04 and interview summary of record.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 20.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION***Response to Arguments***

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 1 and 13 have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. The after-final paper filed 12-01-03 has not been entered (see below). However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of Brattain et al in view of Nazem et al in further view of Lukose.

Response to Amendment

2. The amendment to the claims filed on 12-01-03 does not fully comply with the requirements of 37 CFR 1.121(c) because claim 1 indicated as "previously amended" has been amended from the previously presented claim 1. Amendments to the claims filed on or after July 30, 2003 must comply with 37 CFR 1.121(c) which states:

(c) *Claims*. Amendments to a claim must be made by rewriting the entire claim with all changes (e.g., additions and deletions) as indicated in this subsection, except when the claim is being canceled. Each amendment document that includes a change to an existing claim, cancellation of an existing claim or addition of a new claim, must include a complete listing of all claims ever presented, including the text of all pending and withdrawn claims, in the application. The claim listing, including the text of the claims, in the amendment document will serve to replace all prior versions of the claims, in the application. In the claim listing, the status of every claim must be indicated after its claim number by using one of the following identifiers in a parenthetical expression: (Original), (Currently amended), (Canceled), (Withdrawn), (Previously presented), (New), and (Not entered).

(1) *Claim listing*. All of the claims presented in a claim listing shall be presented in ascending numerical order. Consecutive claims having the same

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status of "canceled" or "not entered" may be aggregated into one statement (e.g., Claims 1–5 (canceled)). The claim listing shall commence on a separate sheet of the amendment document and the sheet(s) that contain the text of any part of the claims shall not contain any other part of the amendment.

(2) *When claim text with markings is required.* All claims being currently amended in an amendment paper shall be presented in the claim listing, indicate a status of "currently amended," and be submitted with markings to indicate the changes that have been made relative to the immediate prior version of the claims. The text of any added subject matter must be shown by underlining the added text. The text of any deleted matter must be shown by strike-through except that double brackets placed before and after the deleted characters may be used to show deletion of five or fewer consecutive characters. The text of any deleted subject matter must be shown by being placed within double brackets if strike-through cannot be easily perceived. Only claims having the status of "currently amended," or "withdrawn" if also being amended, shall include markings. If a withdrawn claim is currently amended, its status in the claim listing may be identified as "withdrawn—currently amended."

(3) *When claim text in clean version is required.* The text of all pending claims not being currently amended shall be presented in the claim listing in clean version, *i.e.*, without any markings in the presentation of text. The presentation of a clean version of any claim having the status of "original," "withdrawn" or "previously presented" will constitute an assertion that it has not been changed relative to the immediate prior version, except to omit markings that may have been present in the immediate prior version of the claims of the status of "withdrawn" or "previously presented." Any claim added by amendment must be indicated with the status of "new" and presented in clean version, *i.e.*, without any underlining.

(4) *When claim text shall not be presented; canceling a claim.*

(i) No claim text shall be presented for any claim in the claim listing with the status of "canceled" or "not entered."

(ii) Cancellation of a claim shall be effected by an instruction to cancel a particular claim number. Identifying the status of a claim in the claim listing as "canceled" will constitute an instruction to cancel the claim.

(5) *Reinstatement of previously canceled claim.* A claim which was previously canceled may be reinstated only by adding the claim as a "new" claim with a new claim number.

Since the reply filed on 12-1-03 appears to intend no claim amendments, the paper is not entered and applicant may amend the claims in response to this non-final rejection using the rules as stated above.

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Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1, 3-4, 6-8, 10-11, 13, 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brattain et al in view of Nazem et al in further view of Lukose.

Brattain et al discloses a method and system for disseminating real time information. Information as stock quotes is available from a provider of the information by a quote server (para 0046). A database is associated with the quote server (31).

Brattain et al does not explicitly disclose:
receiving the information from a provider of the information by a quote server; and,
determining if the information is being requested by a user and then sending the requested information to a contact server which distributes the information.

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Nazem et al discloses receiving the information from a provider of the information by a server (fig 2).

It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art to include receiving the information from a provider of the information by a quote server because Nazem et al discloses the need for information manipulations of a server (col 4, lines 15-23).

Lukose discloses determining if the information is being requested by a user and then sending the requested information to a contact server (fig 1) which distributes the information (para 0026, 0048, 0049).

It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art to include determining if the information is being requested by a user and then sending the requested information to a contact server which distributes the information to Brattain et al because Lukose teaches information distribution efficiency (para 0003, 0004).

Information distribution efficiency is broadly taught by both references, which would lead one with ordinary skill in the art to look to Lukose to solve this problem. Because both references are concerned with information distribution efficiency, they are considered analogous art.

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5. Claims 2, 5, and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brattain et al in view of Lukose as applied to claims 1, 3-4, 6-8, 10-11, 13, 15 above, and further in view of Phillips et al.

Brattain et al in view of Lukose does not disclose the provider as a field vender.

Phillips discloses a provider as a field vender (col 11, lines 17-30; col 13, lines 5-17).

It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art to include a provider as a field vender to Brattain et al in view of Lukose because Phillips teaches such for network enhancement (col 1, lines 15-53).

6. Claims 9, 12, and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brattain et al in view of Lukose as applied to claims 1, 3-4, 6-8, 10-11, 13, 15 above, and further in view of Meyer et al.

Brattain et al in view of Lukose does not disclose tracking the history of each particular stock using the database.

Meyer et al disclose tracking the history of each particular stock using the database (para 0038).

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It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art to include tracking the history of each particular stock using the database to Brattain et al in view of Lukose because Meyer et al teaches such for educational purposes (para 0038).

Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alain L. Bashore whose telephone number is 703-308-1884. The examiner can normally be reached on about 7:00 am to 4:30 pm (Monday thru Thursday).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vincent Millin can be reached on 703-308-1065. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Alain L. Bashore